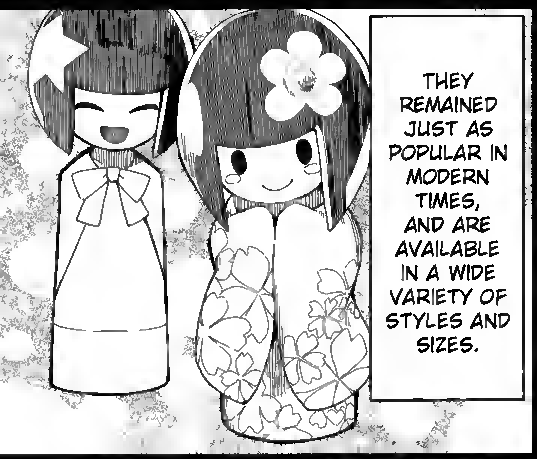
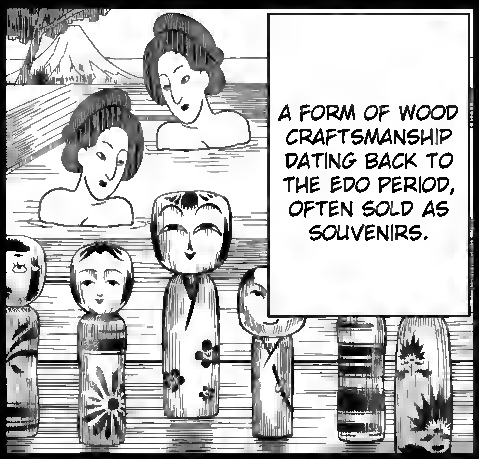
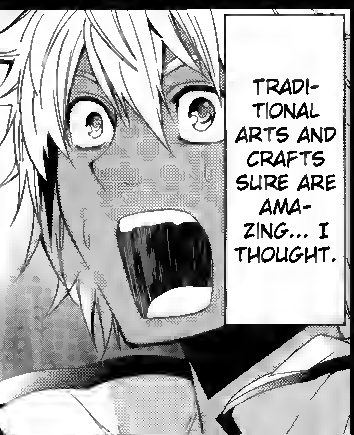
KOKESHI:


THEY REMAINED JUST AS POPULAR IN MODERN TIMES, AND ARE AVAILABLE IN A WIDE VARIETY OF STYLES AND SIZES.


A FORM OF WOOD CRAFTSMANSHIP DATING BACK TO THE EDO PERIOD, OFTEN SOLD AS SOUVENIRS.


TRADI-TIONAL ARTS AND CRAFTS SURE ARE AMA-ZING... I THOUGHT.

THAT KOKESHI CAN FALL FROM THE SKY TOO.
AND I LEARNED TODAY

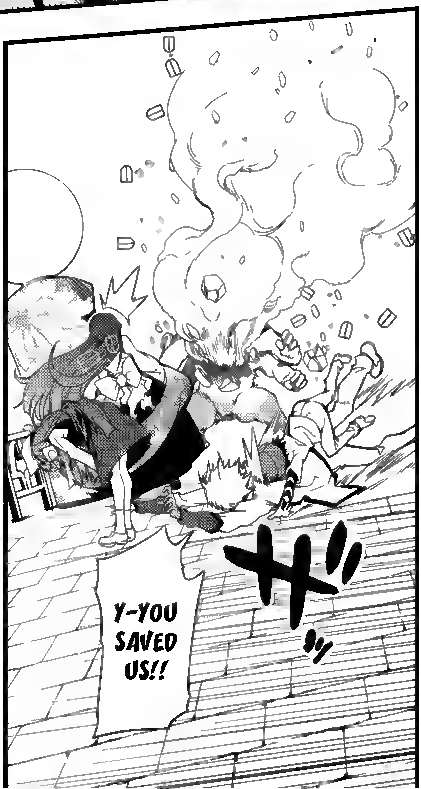
LIKE
FUCKING
HELL, DUDE!!

ICHIMA...
CHAN?

SHI..?
KE..
KO..

MINATO! GET OVER HERE, NOW!!
I CAME TO FEED ON YOU!!
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY!

HEY, DON'T BE SO COLD, NOW!
I DIDN'T SAY YOU TWO COULD COME WITH HER!


Y-YOU SAVED US!!

IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE ANYONE BESIDES US CAN SEE THAT MONSTER!
CAN YOU SEE IT TOO, ICHIMA-CHAN?
SAVE THAT QUESTION FOR LATER!
WHY ARE THESE MASSIVE THINGS JUST FALLING FROM THE SKY LIKE THAT?!
SO COOL!
ARE YOU, LIKE, A MAGI-CAL GIRL?
I WANNA LEARN HOW TO DO THAT TOO!

WAIT... ICHIMA-CHAN,
YOUR... EYES ARE...
ッァァァァァ
ズ…

HE WENT RIGHT THROUGH IT...

WAIT A MINUTE... YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE MONSTERS TOO, AREN'T YOU?!

WHAT IS THIS?! I THOUGHT YOU WERE ONE OF MINATO'S FRIENDS!!
Y-YOU'RE WRONG...
HEH.

IF YOU'RE AS HUNGRY AS I AM, WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY SO?
WE'RE BIRDS OF A FEATHER AND ALL. I'LL LET YOU HAVE THE GIRLS, AS A TOKEN OF GOODWILL.
C'MON, CAN'T I AT LEAST BE EATEN BY A GIRL?!
YOU WERE JUST PRETENDING TO BE FRIENDS WITH MINATO SO SHE WOULD LET HER GUARD DOWN, WEREN'T YOU?! AND AFTERWARDS, YOU WERE GOING TO EAT HER!
I'M NOT... MINATO...?
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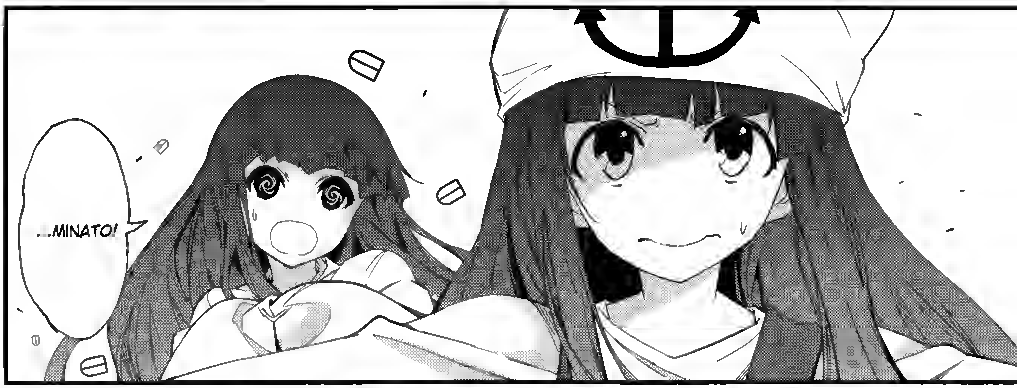
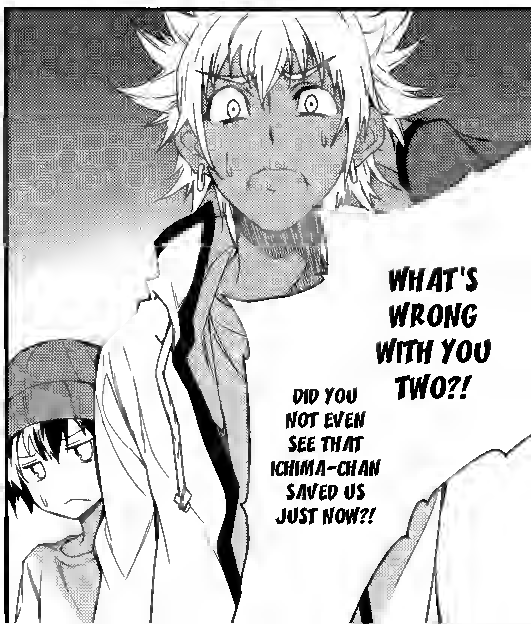

...MINATO!

I'LL CHOOSE TO TRUST ICHIMA-CHAN, MYSELF!!


WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU TWO?!
DID YOU NOT EVEN SEE THAT ICHIMA-CHAN SAVED US JUST NOW?!

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF WHAT THOSE TWO ARE SAYING TURNED OUT TO BE RIGHT?
WHY WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME?
AS IF IT WOULD!
WHY?
YOU'RE MY FRIEND, AREN'T YOU?
...I SEE
...YOU'VE REALLY GROWN UP

...I'M ONLY HERE TO PROTECT MINATO, PERSONALLY.
YOU'RE SO HEARTLESS!!
I'M STARVING OVER HERE.
HURRY UP AND TELL ME IF YOU'RE GONNA TAKE YOUR SHARE OR NOT.
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE HERE FOR YOU TO TAKE.
OHOHOHO.
YOU FOOL.
THEN I'LL TAKE THE OTHER TWO...

AND I HAVE NO INTENTION OF LETTING HER BE ALONE ANY MORE.
WERE THE OTHER TWO HUMANS TO DISAPPEAR, MINATO WOULD BE STRICKEN WITH GRIEF.
ANY MORE...?
YOU'LL ALL BE TOGETHER, AT HOME IN MY BELLY!!
OH, BUT SHE WON'T BE ALONE!!
ドドドドドド

YOU THINK THIS FEATHER-WEIGHT'S GONNA STOP ME?!
JUST THAT ONE? NO, I DON'T.
BUT I'VE SPENT A LOT OF TIME ON MY OWN,
MAKING PLENTY MORE.

POPPY SHOWER.
HEH HEH.
OH DEAR, I CRUSHED HIM.

YOU DID IT!!
HOLY CRAP!!

GUOOO
OOOH!!

I DON'T.
HEY, WHAT NOW?!
YOU'VE STILL GOT SOME LEFT TO THROW AT HIM, RIGHT?
I CAN'T HANDLE HIM AFTER ALL.
KINDA OVERLOADED HERE... IS THERE ANYONE WHO CAN DEAL WITH THAT FREAKIN' MONSTER?!
DAMMIT!!
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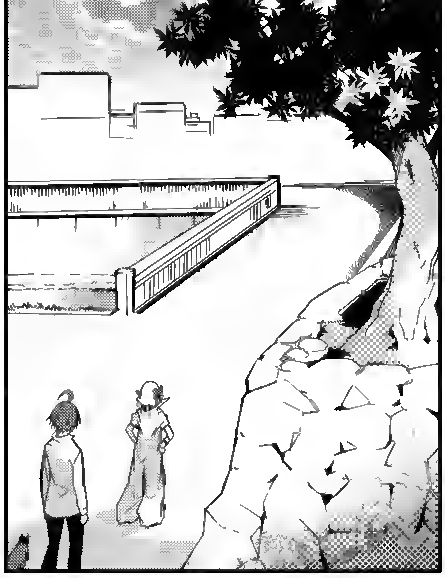
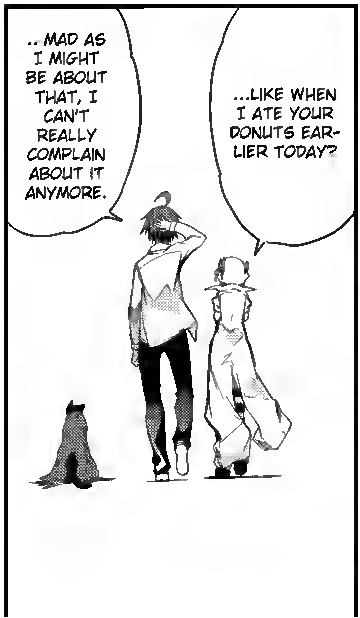


FOR CRYING OUT LOUD.
WE REALLY HAVE NO HOPES OR DREAMS AT ALL!

SO WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO NOW IF WE'RE GOING TO BRING BACK MY MEMORIES?

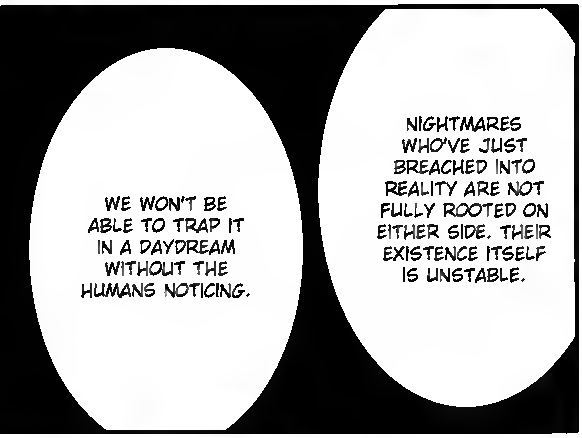

...LIKE WHEN I ATE YOUR DONUTS EARLIER TODAY?
.. MAD AS I MIGHT BE ABOUT THAT, I CAN'T REALLY COMPLAIN ABOUT IT ANYMORE.

IF WE ASSUME THAT WHAT HE SAID IS TRUE, THEN THAT MEANS..
WE THREE MUST HAVE MET IN THE DREAM WORLD AT SOME POINT WHEN I WAS A KID.
AND SOMETHING BAD HAPPENED BETWEEN US AT THAT POINT

THAT BOY CALLED SHIRAGI...
RATHER,
THAT NIGHTMARE USING THE NAME KYOU SHIRAGI.
ASSUMING THAT HIS OBJECTIVE IS TO INVADE REALITY,
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BE PREPARED FOR BATTLE WITH NIGHTMARES WITHIN REALITY ITSELF.
...FIGHTING THEM IN REALITY?
SURE THING.
ハハハ
THAT WAS MY PLAN FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.
...NATURALLY, YOU'RE NO EXCEPTION. BE READY.

ピク
SOMEBODY HELP UUUU-UUUUUS!
MERRY! DID YOU HEAR THAT JUST NOW?!
YEAH!
BOY! SHEEP!!
BELOW US!!

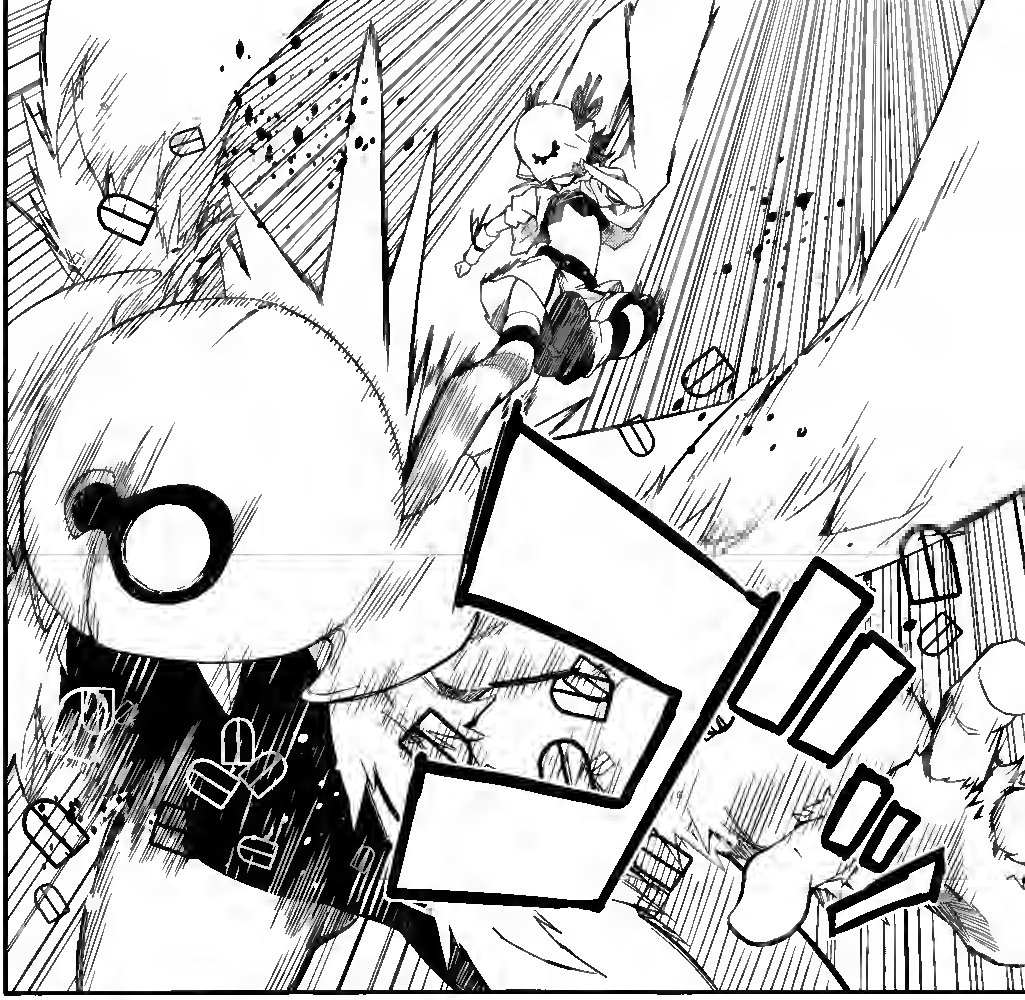
IT'S A NIGHT-MARE!!
AND IT'S CHASING SOMEBODY DOWN THERE!!


NIGHTMARES WHO'VE JUST BREACHED INTO REALITY ARE NOT FULLY ROOTED ON EITHER SIDE. THEIR EXISTENCE ITSELF IS UNSTABLE.
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO TRAP IT IN A DAYDREAM WITHOUT THE HUMANS NOTICING.

CAT MASK!! CAN'T WE FIGHT IT INSIDE A DAYDREAM?!
...WE CAN'T PULL IT IN.

OUR ONLY OPTION IS TO TAKE IT DOWN HERE AND NOW.

UGH, FINE!
THIS IS SO FREAKING COMPLICATED!!
SHEEP!!
I'LL GO BY MYSELF.
YOU STILL DON'T HAVE ENOUGH POWER THAT YOU CAN USE IN REALITY.
THIS ISN'T AN ISSUE OF HAVING ENOUGH POWER OR NOT.
I'M YUMEKUI MERRY. GIVING BAD DREAMS A BEATDOWN IS MY JOB.



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...MINATO-CHAN?
ARE YOU GUYS OKAY?!
UH... YEAH.
AND WHO'RE YOU, NOW?
YUMEJI ONII-CHAN?

つづく 次号５月号は３月24日発売!!

Yumekui Merry REM 80

by Ushio Yoshitaka

DKThias & Renzokusei Scans
present

Raws:	Derek & ER & _Maki
Cleaning:	DKThias & _Maki
Translation:	Demo
Proofreading:	Irru
Typesetting:	DKThias
Quality Control:	_Maki
Motivator:	DaBear